

COLLEGE-LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM

Western Civilization II: 1648 to the Present

Description of the Examination

The Subject Examination in Western Civilization II: 1648 to the Present covers material that is usually taught in the second semester of a two-semester course in Western Civilization. Questions cover European history from the seventeenth century through the post-Second World War period including political, economic, and cultural developments such as Scientific Thought, the Enlightenment, the French and Industrial Revolutions, Nationalism, Imperialism, the Russian Revolution, and the First and Second World Wars. Candidates may be asked to choose the correct definition of a historical term, select the historical figure whose political viewpoint is described, identify the correct relationship between two historical factors, or detect the inaccurate pairing of an individual with a historical event. Groups of questions may require candidates to interpret, evaluate, or relate the contents of a passage, a map, a picture, or a cartoon to other information or to analyze and use the data contained in a graph or table.

The exam is 90 minutes long and includes approximately 120 questions to be answered in two separately timed 45-minute sections.

Knowledge and Skills Required

Questions on the exam require candidates to demonstrate one or more of the following abilities.

- Understanding of important factual knowledge of developments in Western Civilization (about 25-35 percent of the exam)
- Ability to identify the causes and effects of major historical events (about 5-15 percent of the exam)
- Ability to analyze, interpret, and evaluate textual and graphic materials (about 20-30 percent of the exam)
- Ability to distinguish the relevant from the irrelevant (about 15-25 percent of the exam)
- Ability to reach conclusions on the basis of facts (about 10-20 percent of the exam)

The subject matter of the Western Civilization II exam is drawn from the following topics.

	<i>Approximate Percent of Examination</i>
7-9%	<p>Absolutism and Constitutionalism, 1648-1715</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Dutch Republic The English Revolution France under Louis XIV Formation of Austria and Prussia The “westernization” of Russia
4-6%	<p>Competition for empire and economic expansion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global economy of the eighteenth century Western Europe after Utrecht 1713-1740 Economic and demographic change in the eighteenth century
5-7%	<p>The scientific view of the world</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major figures in the Scientific Revolution New knowledge about the individual and society Political theory
7-9%	<p>Period of Enlightenment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Philosophes Enlightened despotism Enlightenment thought Partitions of Poland The British Reform Movement



Approximate Percent of Examination

10-12%	The French Revolution and Napoleonic Europe The Revolution in France The Revolution and Europe The French Empire Congress of Vienna
7-9%	The Agricultural and Industrial Revolutions Causes of the Industrial Revolution Economic and social impact of industrialization on the working and middle classes British Reform Movement
6-8%	Political and cultural developments, 1815-1848 Conservatism Liberalism Nationalism Socialism The Revolutions of 1830 and 1848
8-10%	Politics and diplomacy in the Age of Nationalism, 1850-1914 The Second French Empire, 1852-1870 The unification of Italy and Germany Austria-Hungary Russia France Socialism and labor unions European diplomacy, 1871-1900

➡	<i>Approximate Percent of Examination</i>
7-9%	<p>Economy, culture, and imperialism, 1850-1914</p> <p>Demography</p> <p>World economy of the nineteenth century</p> <p>Technological developments</p> <p>Science, philosophy, and the arts</p> <p>Imperialism in Africa and Asia</p>
10-12%	<p>The First World War and the Russian Revolution</p> <p>The causes of the First World War</p> <p>The economic and social impact of the war</p> <p>The Peace Settlements</p> <p>The Revolution of 1917 and its effects</p> <p>The impact of the Russian Revolution on Europe</p>
7-9%	<p>Europe between the wars</p> <p>International politics, 1919-1939</p> <p>The Great Depression</p> <p>Stalin's five-year plans and purges</p> <p>Italy and Germany between the wars</p> <p>Interwar cultural developments</p>
8-10%	<p>The Second World War and contemporary Europe</p> <p>The causes and course of the Second World War</p> <p>Postwar Europe</p> <p>Science, philosophy, the arts, and religion</p> <p>Social and political developments</p>

Sample Questions

The 25 sample questions that follow are similar to questions on the Western Civilization II exam, but they do not actually appear on the exam. CLEP exams are designed so that average students completing a course in the subject can usually answer about half the questions correctly.

Before attempting to answer the sample questions, read all the information about the Western Civilization II exam on the preceding pages. Additional suggestions for preparing for CLEP exams are provided in Chapter 1.

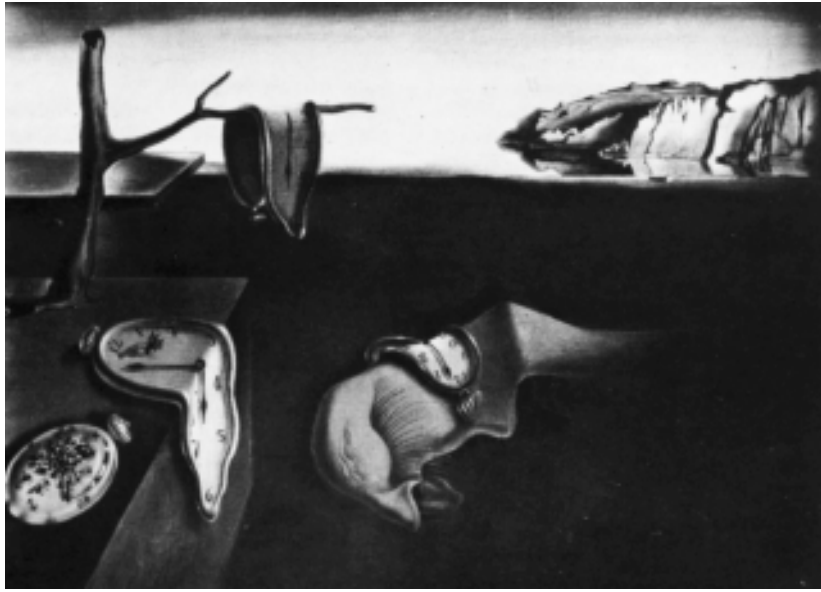
Try to answer correctly as many questions as possible. Then compare your answers with the correct answers, given at the end of this examination guide.

Directions: Each of the questions or incomplete statements below is followed by five suggested answers or completions. Select the one that is best in each case.

1. Colbert's economic policies ran into difficulties chiefly because of the

- (A) relative poverty of France
- (B) loss of France's colonial empire
- (C) wars of Louis XIV
- (D) abandonment of the salt tax
- (E) reckless spending by the nobility

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)



Collection, The Museum of Modern Art, New York.

2. Which of the following is a major theme depicted in the painting above?
 - (A) A scientific view of the world
 - (B) Enlightened rationalism
 - (C) Romantic concern with nature
 - (D) Realistic appraisal of industrial progress
 - (E) The world of the unconscious mind

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

3. Which of the following occurred as a result of the War of the Austrian Succession (1740-1748) and the Seven Years' War (1756-1763)?
 - (A) Prussia emerged as an important economic and military power.
 - (B) Sweden ceased to be a great power.
 - (C) Russia extended its territory to the shores of the Baltic Sea.
 - (D) Hapsburg claims to Polish territory were dropped.
 - (E) France acquired the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine.

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

4. Which of the following statements best describes Romanticism?
- (A) A belief that the rules of art are eternal and unchanging
 - (B) Interest in expressing general and universal truths rather than particular and concrete ones
 - (C) Emphasis on logical reasoning and exact factual knowledge
 - (D) Emphasis on a high degree of emotional subjectivity
 - (E) A value system that rejects idealism

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

5. All of the following were related to the Eastern Question EXCEPT
- (A) Pan-Slavism
 - (B) the Congress of Berlin of 1878
 - (C) the Crimean War
 - (D) the Kruger Telegram
 - (E) the Treaty of San Stefano

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)



6. The cartoon above refers to the
- (A) Napoleonic Wars
 - (B) Crimean War
 - (C) Boer War
 - (D) Russo-Japanese War
 - (E) First World War

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

7. All of the following were instrumental in the emergence of Italy as a modern nation-state EXCEPT
- (A) Mazzini
 - (B) Napoleon III
 - (C) Cavour
 - (D) Francis II
 - (E) Garibaldi
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
8. "Men being by nature all free, equal, and independent, no one can be put out of this estate and subjected to the political power of another without his own consent, which is done by agreeing with other men, to join and unite into a community for their comfortable, safe, and peaceable living in a secure enjoyment of their properties."
- The quotation above is from a work by
- (A) John Locke
 - (B) Karl Marx
 - (C) Edmund Burke
 - (D) Voltaire
 - (E) Adam Smith
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
9. Which of the following characterizes the size of the population of Europe during the eighteenth century?
- (A) It increased rapidly.
 - (B) It stayed about the same.
 - (C) It declined.
 - (D) It dropped drastically in Western Europe, but rose in Eastern Europe.
 - (E) It dropped drastically in Eastern Europe, but rose in Western Europe.
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
10. The term "collective security" would most likely be discussed in which of the following studies?
- (A) A book on the twentieth-century welfare state
 - (B) A monograph on Soviet agricultural policy during the 1920's
 - (C) A book on Bismarckian imperialism
 - (D) A treatise on Social Darwinism
 - (E) A work on European diplomacy during the 1930's
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)



11. The map above shows national boundaries in which of the following years?
- (A) 1789
 - (B) 1812
 - (C) 1815
 - (D) 1870
 - (E) 1914
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
12. The British economist John Maynard Keynes did which of the following?
- (A) He urged governments to increase mass purchasing power in times of deflation.
 - (B) He defended the principles of the Versailles Treaty.
 - (C) He helped to establish the British Labour party.
 - (D) He prophesied the inevitable economic decline of capitalism.
 - (E) He originated the concept of marginal utility to replace the labor theory of value.
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

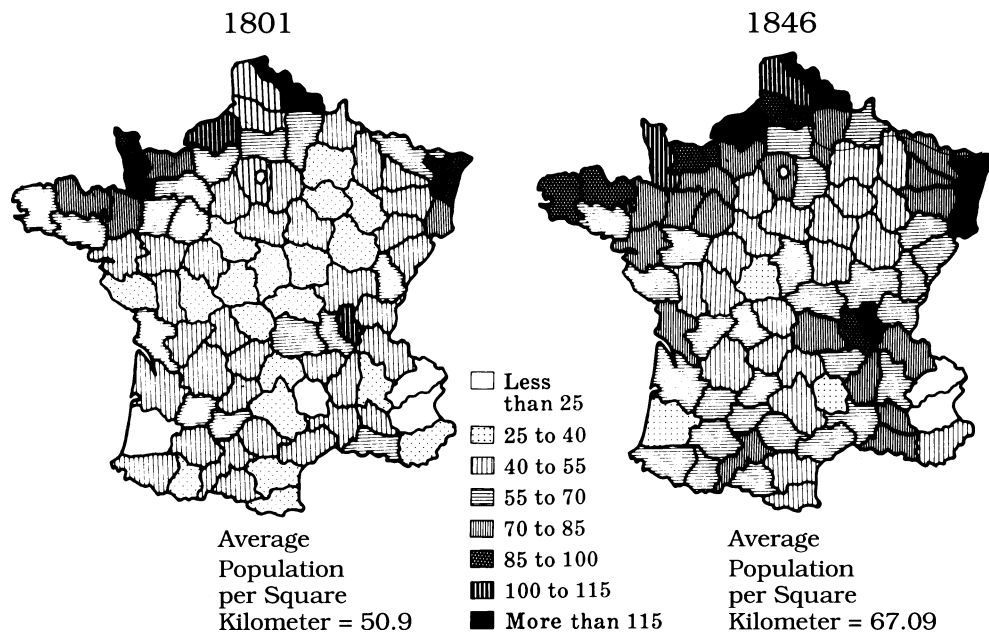
13. The vast increase in German military expenditures in the two decades preceding the First World War occurred primarily because Germany
- (A) had extended its imperialistic activities to the Far East
 - (B) was planning to militarize the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine
 - (C) was extending military aid to Russia
 - (D) feared an attack from France
 - (E) was rapidly expanding its navy
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
14. In comparison to a preindustrial economy, the most distinctive feature of a modern economy is its
- (A) greater capacity to sustain growth over time
 - (B) increased democratization of the workplace
 - (C) lower wages for the literate middle class
 - (D) lack of economic cycles
 - (E) elimination of hunger and poverty
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
15. The chief professed aim of Marxist socialists in the latter half of the nineteenth century was to
- (A) establish constitutional government
 - (B) ensure equal rights for women
 - (C) end government regulation of business
 - (D) institute trial by jury in all criminal cases
 - (E) abolish private ownership of the means of production
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
16. "Each individual, bestowing more time and attention upon the means of preserving and increasing his portion of wealth than is or can be bestowed by government, is likely to take a more effectual course than what, in this instance and on his behalf, would be taken by government."
- The quotation above best illustrates which of the following?
- (A) Fascism
 - (B) Mercantilism
 - (C) Syndicalism
 - (D) Classical liberalism
 - (E) Utopian socialism
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

17. The aim of the Soviet Union's First Five-Year Plan was to

- (A) acquire foreign capital
- (B) produce an abundance of consumer goods
- (C) encourage agricultural production by subsidizing the kulaks
- (D) build up heavy industry
- (E) put industrial policy in the hands of the proletariat

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

POPULATION DENSITY IN FRANCE PER SQUARE KILOMETER



18. The increase in population density between 1801 and 1846 shown above indicates that

- (A) the growth of Paris absorbed any natural population increase
- (B) there was a reversing trend in which industry moved to the center of France while agriculture moved to the north
- (C) the population distribution in existence in 1801 was almost unchanged in 1846
- (D) by 1846 southern France was declining in population
- (E) by 1846 central France was declining in population

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

19. The National Assembly in France (1789-1791) did all of the following EXCEPT

- (A) issue assignats
- (B) ban strikes
- (C) pass the Civil Constitution of the Clergy
- (D) abolish guilds
- (E) abolish private property

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)



20. The cartoon above, published in 1955, suggested that

- (A) the Soviet Union intended to seize and control the bone of contention
- (B) France and Germany should cooperate with each other to meet the Soviet threat
- (C) France and Germany were industrially and economically weak
- (D) communism dominated Western Europe
- (E) France, Germany, and the communist nations should seek to form a tripartite pact in Europe

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

21. Historical explanations for nineteenth-century European imperialism include all of the following EXCEPT a
- (A) need to discover new sources of raw materials
 - (B) need to find new markets for manufactured goods
 - (C) desire to establish world government
 - (D) need to invest excess financial resources
 - (E) desire to maintain the European balance of power
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
22. All of the following factors contributed to the rise of the National Socialist German Workers' party (Nazis) EXCEPT
- (A) the weakness of the Weimar Republic
 - (B) dissatisfaction with the Versailles Treaty
 - (C) the impact of the Great Depression
 - (D) the support of German conservatives
 - (E) the support of Socialist trade unions
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
23. "He used extreme methods and mass repressions at a time when the Revolution was already victorious, when the Soviet state was strengthened, when the exploiting classes were already liquidated and Socialist relations were rooted solidly in all phases of the national economy, when our party was politically consolidated and had strengthened itself both numerically and ideologically."
- In the quotation above, which of the following spoke and about whom?
- (A) Khrushchev about Stalin
 - (B) Khrushchev about Trotsky
 - (C) Stalin about Trotsky
 - (D) Trotsky about Lenin
 - (E) Brezhnev about Lenin
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
24. Albert Einstein's theory of relativity proposed
- (A) a new structure for the atom
 - (B) a new conception of space and time
 - (C) the fundamental concepts for developing the computer
 - (D) the origin of the universe from the explosion of a single mass
 - (E) the particulate nature of light
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

25. Which of the following is a central and essential component of the European welfare state?
- (A) Nationalization of all major sectors of the economy
 - (B) Decentralization of the state
 - (C) State responsibility for assuring access to medical care for all citizens
 - (D) Elimination of large private fortunes through taxation
 - (E) Elimination of independent trade unions

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Study Resources

The study resources for Western Civilization II: 1648 to the Present are the same as for Western Civilization I: Ancient Near East to 1648.

Answers to Sample Questions

Western Civilization II: 1648 to the Present

1. C
 2. E
 3. A
 4. D
 5. D
 6. E
 7. D
 8. A
 9. A
 10. E
 11. B
 12. A
 13. E
 14. A
 15. E
 16. D
 17. D
 18. C
 19. E
 20. B
 21. C
 22. E
 23. A
 24. B
 25. C
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